



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No: 09/929,722
Applicant: James M. Zavislan
Filed: August 14, 2001
Title: IMAGING SYSTEM USING MULTI-MODE LASER
ILLUMINATION TO ENHANCE IMAGE QUALITY
Examiner: Lee A. Fineman Art Unit: 2872
Atty Docket: ML-0473C

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Drawings:

Substitute sheets for FIGS. 2 and 2A-2C are enclosed.

In the Specification:

On page 4, replace paragraph at lines 15-17 of substitute specification as follows:

B₁ FIGS. 2A, 2B and 2C are plots of the amplitude of the multi-mode laser beam at the beam waist in the focal plane shown in FIG. 2, for TEM₀₃, TEM₀₂ and TEM₀₁, illumination respectively;

On page 6, replace paragraph at lines 11-16 of substitute specification as follows:

B₂ The light is returned and collected by the objective 30 and combined. The light focused into sample 12 and returned from sample 12 share substantially objective 30 as illustrated in FIG. 2. The intensity of light returned from the spots C and D depends upon the optical reflectance averaged across the spots C and D. The intensity is the sum of the squares of amplitude of the light returned from each spot C and D. Accordingly, the amount of light from the image plane which is focused by the condenser 34 and passes through the confocal aperture as the optical

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